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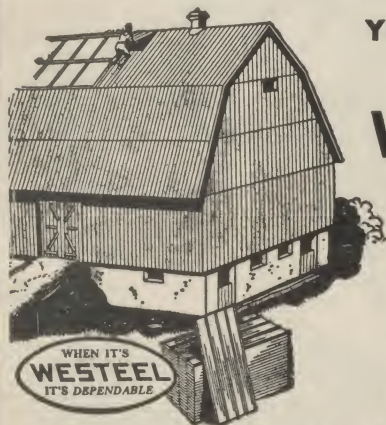


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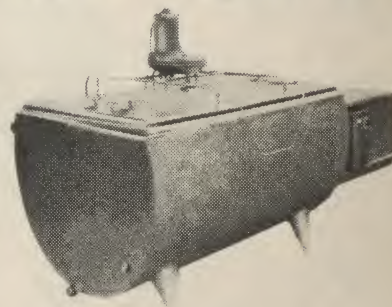
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The Future of the Family Farm

In its economic setting the family farm is claimed to be the last bulwark of the small independent businessman, the man who combines the roles of the capitalist, the manager, and the labourer. These claims state further that in its political setting it represents a decentralization of power necessary to the safeguarding of liberty. In its social setting it is said to provide a wholesome atmosphere for the development of individual initiative and responsibility, a healthful life, and a well-balanced and rich social experience.

This is the case for the family farm. It is represented as one of the most important and, in fact, almost sacred institutions in our society. Nonetheless these claims, while possessing a substance of truth, are partially vitiated. To the extent that farm organizations are effective the decentralization of political power does not exist. Further, the incomes produced on more than half of our Canadian farms are so low that farm family members are ground down by poverty. In these circumstances a healthful, well-balanced social life, and the development of initiative and responsibility are not achieved.

While the circumstances which limit the ability of the family farm to perform its traditional role are recognized, there is a very broad feeling that the organization of agriculture in family units may have to give way to large scale farms. Even if this should not occur, there is fear that the increasing trend toward vertical integration — farm marketing agencies controlling a major part of farm production activities — may destroy the historical independence of the family farm.

While both of these trends are likely to increase in importance, there are good reasons to believe that neither will lead to displacement of the family farm. The relatively small scale of farm operation — very few farms employ the labour of more than four or five men — is based on the operation of uncontrollable technological and economic principles. For instance, it has been shown beyond any possible doubt that a farm of about thirty milking cows exhausts almost all of the economies of a large scale pro-

duction. This means that the lowest possible cost of milk production per hundredweight may be achieved with such a unit. This does not mean that larger profits cannot be achieved by expanding the size of business. It does mean, however, that the larger profits do not come from the availability of cost reducing technology such as operates so strongly in non-farm industries.

On the question of the threat which is implied in vertical integration, it is easy to overstate the dangers to the family farm structure. In the first place, this new form of organization carries with it very substantial benefits to the farm family. Farmers who do not have the capital to conduct a volume of business as large as their management and other resources allow, are by this new organizational device given the power to increase their size. Safeguards against the abuse of this new system can be found.

The Canadian farm industry over the past twenty years has moved toward concentrating the control over production in the hands of a relatively small proportion of well-organized efficient farms. It is estimated that at least fifty per cent of the commercial output of agriculture comes from fifteen per cent of our farms. And the products of our larger well-organized farms are each year claiming a larger share of farm output. This would suggest that the line between the well-organized and well-capitalized farms on the one hand, and the small inefficient units on the other hand will be increasingly clearly drawn. But we do not need policies to protect the small subsistence and part-time farmer. Many in this latter group stay on farms simply as a means of avoiding the stress and strain of urban life. This is a very understandable position to take and farm policy should not be directed against it except in the most extreme circumstances.

Our Cover Picture

The photo of spring flowers used on our cover this month was taken by Malak of Ottawa, to whom we are indebted for the use of his print.

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Virus Indexing of Strawberries

By C. D. Taper

When a strawberry variety loses its vigour, the trouble is probably due to virus disease. This article shows the technique of propagating virus-free plantations.

STRAWBERRIES, like all plants, will grow from seed; but named varieties can not be propagated in this fashion. They must be multiplied by means of the little plants which form on runners growing from the old plants. Thus, all plants within a variety are identical; and a variety is really an individual. This fact has been the source of the popular belief that, like an individual, strawberry varieties grow old and lose vigour. The sad fact that the yields of commercial strawberry varieties have been declining at a disastrous and increasing rate over a period of many years has given colour to this belief. Nevertheless, the supposition is *not* true.

Look closely at a declining variety. It will be seen that many plants are small and weak with few runners. The leaves may have short stems and lie flat on the ground. Many leaves may be yellow, mottled and wrinkled. These are some of the visible symptoms of virus diseases. Look again. It will be seen that there are indeed a number of plants displaying a normal, healthy appearance. Do not be misled. The normal looking plants often produce few berries. In such cases the infection is masked. Thus, strawberry viruses, carried from plant to plant by aphids, are the real destroyers of our formerly good varieties. Now, the increasing rate of decline is understandable. Young plants for a new planting are taken from infected fields in the first place. The incidence of virus diseases is bound to increase in the new field before it, in turn, becomes a parent field. As the years pass, the propagation beds become poorer and poorer parents.

If the young plants could be taken from fields free from infection, the old varieties would yield as well as ever they did. Do such fields exist? Yes, there are a few, and soon there will be more. If, in the case of a particular variety, a few plants free from virus diseases can be found, or even one such plant, it becomes possible to build up a virus-free propagation bed within a few years. In a healthy source of this kind we have a pool of vigorous young plants which can be distributed to farmers. The trick is to find a number of virus-free plants. In the case of certain varieties one may search long before finding even one; but it can be done. The search involves a procedure known as strawberry virus indexing. The process may be simply described; it is nevertheless, in the beginning, a time consuming and meticulous one. However, the end result is worth while, for yields may be doubled, or perhaps tripled.



These two strawberry plants are of the same age and variety; virus infection has dwarfed the one on the left.

This is good news for the man whose income depends upon a crop of strawberries. It is, in fact, the most important advance in fruit growing within recent years.

Many different viruses, or virus strains, infect strawberries. Two or more may be present in a single plant, and be transmitted directly through its runners to its daughter plants; or several viruses may be carried and transmitted together by aphids. No varieties are completely immune, although certain tolerant varieties may be immune to one virus of a complex. Such varieties are dangerous carriers. All these factors combine to make a thorny problem for the horticulturist. Despite this, a method of indexing strawberry plants to determine the presence or absence of viruses has been worked out. It involves the use of plants of the exceptionally virus-sensitive strawberry species, *Fragaria vesca*. These are used as indicator plants.

The indicators and plants of the varieties to be indexed are grown in pots in a greenhouse. Say one has decided to test a plant of the variety *Sparkle* for the presence of viruses. The first step is to graft one of its runners to a runner of a healthy *vesca* plant. It may be noted that the term runner, as used here, refers to the creeping stem upon which new plants form at every second node; this stem is sometimes called a stolon. It is preferable to use the inarching method of grafting. The graft may be made by slicing a sliver $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long off one side of each runner at a point near the plant producing it. The cut surfaces are bound together with tape. If the *Sparkle* plant is a carrier of viruses they will quickly be transmitted, through the graft, to the indicator plant, which will soon cease to grow well and within three or four weeks will develop visible symptoms. If the indicator

remains healthy, it is apparent that a virus-free plant of the variety Sparkle has been found. An entire stock may be propagated from this single plant shown to be virus-free when grafted to *F. vesca*. It will take at least three years to multiply sufficient stocks from this one plant for distribution through the nursery trade or some other distributor. During this period the virus-free plants are kept healthy by growing them in a place isolated from sources of contamination, and by frequently spraying them with insecticides in order to control aphids and other insectvectors. Wild strawberry plants near the propagation bed should be destroyed by weed killers. Aphid-proof screening affords good protection, but is too costly for large scale plant multiplication.

The Quebec growers have already revealed a keen interest in the future of virus-free strawberries. Many believe that the introduction of clean, vigorous plants may result in the revitalization of the industry, and a vast increase in its importance. In indexing they see a way to produce fruits which can meet the competition from southern growers who are beginning to place a large, uniform kind of berry on the Montreal market at all seasons, including the peak of our own production. The answer may lie in improving the quality of our own crop through the planting of virus-free stocks. Already some Quebec farmers have been purchasing such plants from nurseries, particularly nurseries in the United States.

A word to the wise in this regard is not amiss. At present fully indexed stocks are in great demand, but are not nearly as plentiful as one might wish. Hence, many so-called clean stocks are only relatively so. The legitimate nurseryman makes this clear in his literature. It will pay to read it carefully. Certainly, it is a mistake to buy stocks which are not reliably indicated to be completely virus-free, especially as all stocks advertised as virus-free may be more costly than ordinary stocks. It may prove wiser to wait until these stocks are available locally from agencies operating under requirements, and possibly the inspection, of our Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture.



Using a variety which is very susceptible to virus infection (on the right) to test the health of the normal-looking plant on the left. The arrow indicates where runners from each plant have been grafted together. If the plant being tested carries a virus disease, the indicator plant on the right will soon show symptoms and will die within three or four weeks.

A large part of an indexing program consists of the maintenance and propagation of virus-free plants. The Horticulture Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, now provides a limited number of indexed plants to selected agencies able to multiply them. In general the required conditions are a screen house for primary planting, field multiplication at least once, a second field multiplication in a strawberry growing region providing a prescribed spray program is observed, and, finally, the inclusion of a replacement program so that commercial stocks will not be more than four years away from indexed plants.

The eastern provinces, namely, Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritimes, seem somewhat in advance of British Columbia in this new field. This is something for the Quebec grower to think about. It will not be long before virus-free plants will be freely available to him from propagating centres near his own farm. It may profit him to ask his local agronomist about it right now.

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Pasture Fertility

What farmer would be content to say that his cows do not need feed, let alone concentrate? Then why assume that the soil can go on producing without feeding? What farmer is prepared to say that any nondescript animal will suffice, that breed and pedigree are of no consequence? Then why be satisfied with seed of unknown lineage and performance? Surely the crops which are the raw material produced on the farm deserve the same attention and careful management as the animals which will convert that raw material into a marketable product.

FARMERS have had the habit of regarding pasture fertility as one of those things that "take care of themselves". They know that animal droppings and urine are a sure source of fertility; and they rightly consider a sod crop as a soil builder. So the question of fertilizing pastures has seemed to many farmers the least of their worries.

They concentrate on other pasture problems — choice of seed, separation of seed bed, control of grazing by careful management of the animals.

Pasture fertility cannot be so lightly handled: for long run, high production at minimum cost, very careful fertilizing is essential. The soil is steadily drained by the crop growth, and the grazing animals continuously harvest its nutrients. Consider this table:

Variety	Size of Crop	Nutrients Removed
Red clover hay	2 tons	80-100 lbs. of Nitrogen up to 20 lbs. Phosphorous 70-80 lbs. Potassium
Timothy hay	1½ tons	40 lbs. Nitrogen 15 lbs. Phosphorous 40-50 lbs. Potassium

Of these nutrients, parts are returned by manure from animals grazing the pasture — but only to a limited extent. About 80 percent of the nitrogen and 90 percent of the phosphorous and potash will remain in the manure. (This may be decreased by loss in storage etc.) Here is a clear loss of fertility — a loss that must be replaced.

But maintenance of high production over a long period is not only pasture problem. A good sward balance of grass and legumes, free from weeds — that is the second ideal of pasture fertility. This ideal is constantly threatened by failure to carry on a proper fertilizing program.

Exactly how closely does sward balance reflect the application of fertilizer? One experiment in Eastern Que-

By Howard A. Steppler

bec showed these results: (Six hundred pounds of fertilizer were applied every three years and the results were tabulated at the end of six years.)

	% legumes	% grass	% weeds	Yield Tons
600 lbs. 0-16-6	60.3	33.7	6.0	8.20
No fertilizer	28.5	52.0	19.5	4.48

Here is clear proof that sward balance depends on fertilizing pasture.

How much fertilizer? What types?

Legumes supply their own nitrogen needs and those of associated grasses through the organisms growing on their roots. But enough phosphorous and potassium to replace the minerals removed by legumes is needed, and more also, to increase production. Clover requires more potassium than phosphorous; this is usually true of all legumes. In coarse textured soils potassium needs are greater than in finer textured soils such as clay loams and clays. But no rule of thumb can be given. The best advice is to leave in each area where fertilizer is being applied a small strip with no fertilizer (perhaps one width of spreader or drill). In this way the response of one particular sward on one particular soil to one specific fertilizer can be measured exactly. In this way, too, the individual farmer can find a point beyond which fertilizer application is wasteful. Beyond this "point of no return" there is no increase of production regardless of how much extra fertilizer is applied — and the specific point can only be determined by practical experiment with a test strip.

Such experiments in good fertility practice should be part of a six point program covering all the factors which guarantee productive pastures:

- choice of pasture site.
- preparation of seed bed; that is practice of good seedling methods.
- use of proper mixture for conditions, soil and climate.
- high quality seed of well adapted varieties.
- effective grazing by careful control of animals.
- good fertility practices.

Too often fastidious care is expended on animal husbandry while pastures are left to look after themselves. Farmers who take scientific pride in balanced feeding of their herds ignore the need of balanced feeding of the soil. Too often also, tradition suggests that poor land will do for pasture, and that inferior seed is "just about as good" as registered and certified grades.

Yet concern for pastures is the first step in producing the raw material of the farm — raw material to be converted by the herd into produce for markets,



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Canners Take Stock

The canning of fruits and vegetables is an important industry from the economic and social as well as the nutritive standpoint. The industry, which is barely 50 years old in Quebec, gives work and furnishes income to thousands of employees and growers. Canned foods ease the work of the housewife, and assures the consumer of a constant supply of foods which have retained their original nutritive value.

The importance of the industry is best demonstrated by figures published by the Quebec Bureau of Statistics. The latest report, for 1955, indicated that there were 128 industrial establishments in operation that year, producing canned products valued at over \$38,000,000. The expansion which has taken place in the last 10 years is shown by reference to the production for 1946, which was about \$20,000,000. As far as vegetables are concerned, the four leading products are peas, tomatoes and tomato products, beans, and sweet corn, which had a combined value of some \$12,000,000 in 1955.

It is not by accident that the popularity of canned goods keeps increasing; when one offers a good product, one finds ready sale for it. And the canners see to it that their products are good by constant attention to all phases of growing and processing the various fruits and vegetables they pack. One of the ways they do this is to hold a meeting once a year when representatives of the more important firms in Quebec get together to discuss the latest techniques of growing and canning fruits and vegetables.

This year the conference was a two-day affair, held on March 5 and 6, organized in collaboration with the Horticulture Service of the Quebec Department of Agriculture and attended by some 300 persons.

We feel that our readers would not be too interested in the details of the papers and discussions, so we will content ourselves with indicating the type of work that was accomplished at the meetings.

On the first day, after the preliminaries of registration and addresses of welcome, the meeting got down to business with reports on experiments in progress to discover the ideal canning variety of tomato. Prof. Prieur of the Agricultural School at St. Remi spoke on yields, Dr. Jean David of the Quebec Department and Macdonald College dealt with quality, and B. Cossette, also of the Department, dealt with disease control by spraying. In the



The "cutting bee". Canners are examining samples of beans and scoring them according to the official grade regulations. Other products checked on were tomatoes and strawberry jam.

afternoon Harold Buckley of the Chisholm Ryder Company, and Henri Rondot of Green Giant dealt with mechanical harvesting of beans and of sweet corn. Each of these talks was followed by a discussion period, in which many of the audience took part.

On the second day Jean Richer, of Steinberg's, gave some invaluable tips to the canners from the point of view of consumer preferences as demonstrated by buying habits in their stores. Allan Crawford of Clark Foods gave a technical talk on the importance of proper vacuum in cans, and the business of the day finished with a session on questions from the audience on all aspects of the trade.

One of the valuable items on the programme, from the point of view of the ultimate consumer as well as the canners themselves, is the "cutting bee", where samples of canned products, chosen from normal stocks, are opened and judged by the canners themselves in comparison with the recognized standards for each grade, and also in relation to the grade as marked on the cans. Since the samples are identified only by numbers, no one knows what firm packed the particular samples that are being examined. A discussion of the results spotlights carelessness in processing that may have been brought to light, and gives the canners a chance to see just how their products measure up.

Apple Growers at St. John



Fernand Godbout, with a copy of the spray guide in his hand, explains how the recommendations it contains came to be made.

Entomologists and plant pathologists at the Science Service laboratory at St. John held open house again this spring for apple growers, at which they discussed with the growers the newer insecticides and fungicides, forecast to the best of their ability the pest situation as it may be this summer, and answered questions on orchard protection that were worrying the growers.

These spring sessions have become so popular that they are held in two sections; one day for French-speaking and one for English-speaking farmers. The meetings have also outgrown the assembly hall in the laboratory itself, and this spring both were held in the newly-opened City Hall at St. John, where facilities for such a meeting are of the best.

Greeted by Dr. A. A. Beaulieu, the laboratory's director, the many visitors got down to business early in the day, in order to cover the crowded schedule. Dr. E. LeRoux talked of codling moth control; B. Parent of the red mite; R. Paradis dealt with oyster shell scale, which is on the increase in Quebec; the plum curculio and leaf rollers. Plant diseases were covered by Dr. R. Crete who dealt with powdery mildew, which is serious in the United States and in Ontario, but which has not made any great inroads into Quebec as yet, thanks largely to our severe winters which prevent its becoming established. P. O. Roy

described the results of experiments with four fungicides, the effects of which were evaluated on the basis of leaf analyses and fruit sampling. These were Glyadin, Niacide, Thioneb and Captan.

It is not our purpose to try to describe in detail the recommendations for insecticides and fungicides which were given in connection with these talks, since they appear in the spray guide which any grower may obtain for the asking. Fernand Godbout took some time to describe the way in which the committee which prepares the guide each year arrives at its recommendations, and the many agricultural scientists who contribute to its preparation. The function of this committee, which meets regularly, is to examine the results of many trials of new materials, such as those described by Mr. Roy, and to base its recommendations accordingly. No new material is put into the guide until exhaustive tests have shown that it is capable of controlling the pest for which it is intended without danger to the crop.

Fungicides and insecticides, while controlling insects and disease, may leave residues on fruits and vegetables that could prove dangerous to the consumer, and the Food and Drug Division of the Federal Health Service is constantly at work checking on this point, to make sure that residues found on food offered for sale do not exceed the safe minimum. Those present at the meeting were glad to hear from Paul Jean, the regional director of the Division, that no instances of any toxic residues had been found on apples during the past year.



Three of the experts braced for questions from the audience. From left to right they are Messrs. Paradis, LeRoux and Parent, all entomologists on the Science Service staff at the St. John laboratory.

A Good Year for Holsteins

DAIRY farmers are in the best position they have been for the past ten years. The local market for livestock is strong, prices are good and the demand for quality stock, certified free of Bang's Disease, is steadily increasing. The outlook for dairy products in general is improving, consumer demand is on the rise and the volume of products in storage is less than usual. In a word, milk producers are optimistic. But they must keep working for more co-operation, more publicity, and must continue to support their breed associations. Finally, they must work with their fellow breeders to achieve the greatest possible improvement in the quality of their herds.

The above pretty well summarizes all the discussion at the annual meeting of the Holstein Breeders of Quebec held in Montreal early in March, which was presided over by president R. J. Macdonald of Huntingdon. Among those attending the meeting, in addition to the many regular members of the Quebec Branch, were two Crown Ministers, Hon. Wilfrid Labbé and Hon. Antonio Elie, Hon. C. B. Sherwood, Minister of Agriculture for New Brunswick and a former national president; James Brown and George Clemons, respectively president and secretary of the National Association; Armand Ouellette, representing the Quebec Department of Agriculture; Harry Tremblay, chief of production services in Quebec for the Federal Department; Albert Desrosiers, official delegate from the Corporation des Agronomes. And making her first public appearance since the Salon was Miss Verville, Quebec's Dairy Queen for 1958, who presented many of the trophies which were handed out during the course of the meeting.

This meeting marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the parent society, and to mark the occasion the Quebec Branch presented long-service pins to nine veteran breeders all of whom had been in the Holstein business for more than forty years. So honoured were P. H. Deland, l'Acadie, Ernest Croteau, St. Paul de Chester, Angus McNaughton, Huntingdon, Antonio Elie, La Baie, W. L. Carr, Huntingdon, A. W. Elder, Glenelm, Lucien Blanchet, La Presentation, Daniel Shea, Vinton, and Charles Auclair, Marieville.

Master Breeder Honoured

The Master Breeder Shield is the highest award a Holstein breeder may win, and its value may be judged from the fact that only seventy-seven have been awarded in the long history of the National Association. A Quebec winner this year was Wilfrid Verville of Arthabaska, and the shield was presented to him by his daughter in her capacity as Dairy Queen.



Wilfrid Verville of Arthabaska received his Master Breeder shield from the hands of his daughter, Quebec's Dairy Queen for 1958.

To win this award a breeder must have raised in his herd a specific number of animals, both male and female, which are of high type standard; the actual number required is set in proportion to the total size of the herd. In a herd averaging forty head, Mr. Verville has had seven Very Good bulls, eight Very Good and eleven Good Plus cows, all of whom have maintained the high production standard set out as a requirement. In addition, he has had five Very Good and forty-five Good Plus cows which did not meet the production requirement.

Mr. Verville's herd was built up in 1930 with stock purchased from Ernest Croteau, who received one of the long-service pins at the meeting, and who is himself a Master Breeder. Mr. Verville's success can be attributed in large measure to the fact that he has followed the approved methods of breeding, has always had his herd on R.O.P., and has paid particular attention to sanitation and disease control. In accepting the award, he paid tribute to the advice and help he had received from his two agronomes, Domina Fortin and Hector Beliveau.

Secretary Reports Progress

Hermas Lajoie, the Branch's hardworking secretary-fieldman, reviewed the events of the past year, which had seen, among many other things, the establishment of the Dairy Queen contest at the Salon de l'Agriculture, which had been his brain-child. Club work had gone ahead well; attendance at local fairs had been on the whole satisfactory,

but the Black and White Days, he thought, could have been improved. He pointed out that a breeder does not have to bring a big herd to a fair; even if he has only one or two really good animals he should exhibit them just the same, not necessarily because of any prize money he might win, but as a publicity measure. The fairs are the show windows in which breeders can display what they have to offer, and they should take every opportunity to make use of this medium of publicizing both their own herds and the breed itself.

Progress in breeding was reported right down the line; registrations up by 384 at 8,046; transfers up 383 to 5,177; membership up 37 to 1,525, and income of the Branch up by \$3,235. In all Canada in 1957 Holstein breeders registered 75,650 head and sold 58,975. Quebec produces more milk than any other province, and, he claimed, it is up to Holstein breeders to see that a large proportion of this huge volume is produced by Holstein cows.

High Production Figures

Quebec has the cow which has given more milk in her lifetime than any other in Canada. She is Elegante Bijou Tensen, owned by Hubert Bousquet of La Presentation, and in her lifetime has given 240,068 pounds of milk, 9,072 pounds of fat, in 13 lactations. She is Canada's champion for milk production; 4 of her records are on 3x, and 9 are on 2x.

Another Quebec cow is in the over 200,000 pound class; Bess Bijou Rag Apple Abberkerk, owned by Gaston Daoust of St. Hermas. Her lifetime record in 12 lactations is 214,598 pounds milk, 7,390 pounds fat.

In addition to the two mentioned above, 51 other breeders received one or more high production certificates at the meeting.



Bill Carr of Huntingdon admits to 41 years of association with the Holstein breed. Here he receives a souvenir pin from Miss Verville.

Some Sugar Beet Figures

There have been great variations from year to year in the quantity of sugar beets grown in Quebec for the refinery at St. Hilaire, and in the returns to the farmers who grow this crop, which was practically unknown in this province before 1944. The smallest year was, naturally, in the early days; in 1945, total production delivered to the plant was 9,843 tons; the biggest year was 1950 when a record crop of 138,043 tons was processed.

Yields per acre have also shown wide swings, from 6 tons in 1944 to 10½ tons in 1957. Revenues to the farmers also show wide variations, which more or less keep step with the quantity harvested. In the best year, 1950, income from beets to growers was \$1,974,576; other "good" years were 1951, \$1,450,653; 1952, \$1,226,133; 1955, \$998,931; 1957, \$993,566.

Sugar beets are rather critical as far as weather conditions during the growing season is concerned, and the relatively heavy rainfall during the past few years has had its effect in lower yields ever since 1950.

Yield per acre was highest in 1957 at just under 13 tons, and that year farmers realized \$168.70 per acre for this crop. Even in the record year of 1950, revenue per acre was only \$150, though this is considerably above the \$72 per acre in 1944 and \$84 per acre in 1945. The next best year, from this standpoint, was 1955, when revenue per acre was \$165.

One might think that the number of farmers growing beets would be the determining factor as far as total production is concerned, but this is not necessarily so; what is important is the kind of grower that is involved. For example, in 1944, 2,022 farmers grew 16,260 tons of beets; in 1957, 1,052 farmers grew 76,428 tons at an average yield of 13 tons to the acre.

From 1944 to 1946 the refinery paid \$12 per ton for its beets; raised the figure to a basic \$13 in 1947. With bonuses etc., farmers received \$15 a ton in 1951, \$14 in 1952 and \$15 in 1956.



Dr. Racicot Retires

Plant Pathologist H. N. Racicot, Head of the Horticultural Crop Disease Section, Science Service, has retired after 35 years service with the Canada Department of Agriculture. His contributions in research, mainly in tree fruits and potato diseases in eastern Canada have been outstanding, particularly in the Province of Quebec.

Born in South Stukely, Quebec on March 9, 1893, Mr. Racicot attended McMaster University where he received a B.A. degree in 1921. He entered public service in 1923 and was first stationed at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere where he set up a new Plant Pathology laboratory. In 1930 he was transferred to Ottawa as Plant Pathologist for western Quebec. Eventually he was appointed Head of the Horticultural Crop Disease Section.

During his career, Mr. Racicot solved many problems pertaining to fire blight in apple and pear orchards in western Quebec and also accomplished the isolation of the organism responsible for bacterial ring rot in potatoes. He is credited with the development of control measures for these and other problems. In the past 35 years Mr. Racicot has written over 40 publications on various plant diseases.



A retirement gift was presented recently to Dr. H. N. Racicot at Ottawa. Our photo shows, from left to right, Dr. R. Glen, Associate Director of the Science Service, Mrs. Racicot, Dr. Racicot, and Dr. W. F. Hanna, Chief of the Division of Botany and Plant Pathology.

Get Ready for the Agricultural Merit Contest

June 1st is the deadline for getting your name on the list of contestants for the 1958 Agricultural Merit Competition, to be held this year in District 4. This comprises the counties of Berthier, Champlain, Gatineau, Hull, Joliette, Labelle, Laviolette, Maskinonge, Montcalm, Papi-neau, Pontiac, Portneuf, St. Maurice, Temiscamingue and Three Rivers.

Dairy farming predominates in this district, though there are certain areas where specialized crops are produced such as potatoes in Hull-Gatineau-Labelle; sugar beets and tobacco in Berthier-Joliette; truck crops, small fruits and cigarette tobacco in the St. Maurice Valley.

Any farmer who has operated at least a 60-acre farm for the past 5 years is eligible to compete, in the professional section. "Hobby farmers", and farms operated by institutions compete in a different section of the contest.

When the contest was last held in this district, 5 years ago, 9 farmers were in the running for the gold medal, which was won by S. Wyman MacKechnie of Wyman in Pontiac county. For the silver medals, 56 farmers competed and there were 73 in the contest for bronze medals.

Your local agronomist has the application forms.



Hon. Antonio Elie has been with Holsteins since 1915; the Dairy Queen presents him with the long-service pin while Hermas Lajoie (whose idea it probably was) shows his delight.



Pastures are the raw material, whether of beef or of milk, and should get the best possible care.

Baling Pastures To Use Later

A system of pasture management that is meeting with considerable success in Australia is the baling of lush early growth pasture and leaving the bales in the pastures for later use by the sheep. W. F. Straude of Naracoorte, South Australia and his two sons, Keith and Robert, have had exceptionally good results. In discussing the matter Mr. Straude stated, "Most of us didn't realize the amount of valuable feed that has been going to waste until we saw it wrapped up in round bales. Most of our heavy flush of spring growth went unused. We just couldn't cope with it. Our stocking rates are governed by the year's leaner periods. As a result, the pastures run up to seed, become unpalatable to our stock and is just trampled underfoot".

"This new technique is truly a practical and easy way of conserving spring growth for feeding back during the dry periods of autumn and winter" Mr. Straude continued. "We use the round bales because we feel they offer more protection against rain. We leave the bales where they fall—livestock will feed on the bales even two years later, in preference to uncut dry grass." Bales left on pasture for 18 months contained hay that was as sweet as ever and wastage was considerably less than 1½ inches around the bale.

"This method permits using pasture that normally ends up as the roughest

cattle feed. Sheep eat by forcing their way into one end of the bale, a method of eating which maintains the round structure of the bale until most of it has been eaten. Even partly eaten bales remain weatherproof.

Based on a 2-year test with this system, Mr. Straude calculates that he has been able to double the carrying capacity of his pastures—from 2 to 4 sheep per acre. Additional advantages that he has found include:

- better fire protection
- shelter for young stock
- better control of worms
- better control of pasture insects.

Mr. Straude concluded the interview saying "we have found baling surplus pasture growth in the spring for dry period use to be good pasture management that returns a profit."

As far as we know this type of pasture management is not practised in Eastern Canada. It appears to be an idea that would bear further investigation on any livestock farm.

Farm Workday Growing Shorter?

The farm workday is slowly but surely becoming shorter, reports the West Virginia University Agricultural News in the *Dairy Digest*. A decline in working hours per day has been reported to the United States Department of Agriculture. Farmers averaged 10.7 hours of work per day on June 1, 1957. At the same time in 1956, the average was 10.9 hours per day. In 1955 it was 11.2 hours.

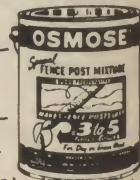


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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*and to matters of interest to them
Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes*

OUR OLDEST CANADIANS

by Mary L. Watson



This is Patsy Seymour, 19 years of age. Certainly not very old, but Patsy is an Indian and as such represents our oldest Canadians. You may have seen her on television recently, as she won one of the scholarships of the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of

Citizenship and Im-

migration and is attending Carleton University. Among many achievements at the St. Lawrence High School in Cornwall, Patsy won high honours in citizenship. She has not attended an Indian school since Grade 6.

It is the policy of the Federal Government to encourage the attendance of Indian children at non-Indian schools. About 17 per cent of all Indian school children now go to the regular provincial schools. There is no known case of discrimination or prejudice displayed by non-Indian pupils to their Indian fellow-pupils. Apparently racial discrimination and prejudice is planted by adults.

Do we unconsciously take our ideas of Indians from old history text-books or TV Westerns? This one-sided picture of the Indian as an enemy takes no account of other historical facts.

The Indian was indeed a bitter foe but also a gallant ally. It was he who companioned and guided our early explorers into the vast unknown wilderness. He taught them to make and use the birch bark canoe, so light to portage. For winters he provided snow-shoes and toboggan. These were his only means of transportation. The first farmers in Canada were Indians who taught the early settlers to plant native crops of corn, beans, pumpkins and squash and make maple syrup. Our traditional Thanksgiving dinner is pure Indian for they taught us how and what game to hunt and the edible berries to pick, hence the turkey and cranberry sauce. They even taught us to play their game of lacrosse.

The two largest cities of our Province were once Indian villages: Hochelaga (Montreal) and Stadacona (Quebec).

As first dwellers they naturally disputed the right of the French settlers to displace them. At the eastern end of our Province, however, the Micmacs were always faithful allies of the French. It was unfortunate for the French that they had no means of knowing until too late that the Iroquois, the most advanced and highly organized, were a confederation of five nations engaged in a war of expansion with other tribes. Champlain joined the wrong side in this Indian war with lasting consequences; their bitter enmity. The Iroquois joined the side of the English and this was a factor in the loss of New France. Loyalty to the English crown in the Revolutionary war lost the Iroquois rich lands in New York State, Pennsylvania, and part of Ohio. Dr. Monture says, "We sometimes wonder whether any other group of United Empire Loyalists sacrificed more than we". The crown gave them grants of land in Canada, among them Caughnawaga and St. Regis. It is from the St. Regis band that Patsy Seymour comes.

Another Indian ally was Tecumseh who was a brigadier-general in the War of 1812 and died in battle against the Americans.

The white impact on the Indian was not all good. Diseases were introduced which were new and to which he had developed no resistance, like smallpox and tuberculosis. Alcohol was something else which was new, for the Indians had no alcoholic beverages, and to which he likewise had no resistance. It seemed for a time as if the Indian might be a "vanishing race". Due however to the teaching of health and sanitation by our Government, that trend has now stopped and Indian population is on the increase. At present it is one Indian to 100 whites. This would therefore seem a good time to integrate our Indian citizens, as a large population of segregated people of another race can prove a feasting sore in any country.

In our sister Dominion of New Zealand, where the native Maori population number one to every 16 whites, and where the Maori Wars occurred just a short hundred years ago, the Maori enjoys full social and political equality. In New Zealand there are no reserves and the Maori is the trusted comrade of his fellow New Zealander, with whom he fought in the two world wars.

Our Indians also have a splendid record in both world wars, and of course they were volunteers as they didn't come under compulsory military service.

We have all heard of the fearless structural steel workers of Caughnawaga who have worked across the whole continent on any particularly high steel structures, from the Golden Gate bridge in California, to the skyscrapers of Manhattan, and are now working on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

While Indians still engage in the traditional occupations of farming and trapping, many have entered the professions. There are Indian teachers, doctors, lawyers, dentists, engineers, geologists, ministers, artists and priests. In British Columbia, Frank Calder was elected a member of the B.C. Legislature before the Indians had the provincial vote. (The Indians of Quebec do not yet have the provincial franchise). Just recently an Indian Senator was appointed, James Gladstone. There is even the prospect of an Indian saint. Kateri — the Lily of the Mohawks — is being considered for canonization by Rome.

We must conclude from the foregoing that the Indian has certainly proved he is not inferior in intelligence to us. For many years it has been the wise policy of Indian Affairs to encourage Indians to take employment off the reserve, but in this they need our co-operation.

You would not like to think, I am sure, that Patsy would be refused a room, meals in restaurants, rides in taxis nor entrance to a movie, yet all this has happened to Indian Canadians. Shall we whites, by our stupid and unkind attitude, prove the stumbling-block to the long-standing aim of our Indian Affairs to integrate the Indian into the general life and economy of the country, where he is well able to take his place? Shall we good people, as we like to think ourselves, push Patsy or other young Indians to slums for accommodation and riff-raff for their only company? Rather let us extend to these, our oldest Canadians when they come off their reserves, the helping hand of friendship.

I cannot conclude without mentioning a matter of particular interest to Institute members. Did you know that our sister Indian women had 158 Homemakers' Clubs, 12 in our own Province? They too have their conventions and leadership training courses. They also have the same aims as the Women's Institutes, and the same motto, "For Home and Country" — their country as well as ours!

OFFICE HAPPENINGS

Facts! Fingers! Fun!

This is almost upon us when you read this. Is your application in yet? The dates again, May 26-30. Attendance is again limited to 40, so "first come first served". Consideration is given, as usual, to representation from each county. See your program for details.

Tweedsmuir Competition

Directions for this have been sent to every branch. More copies were made up so if you want extra, write the Q.W.I. office. The craft section is entitled "Grandmother's Quilt Blocks". This ties in with the subject of the ACWW Essay Contest, "Things My Grandmother Told Me". Rules for this contest are also in the Q.W.I. office for branches who may be interested. Briefly they are: essays to contain not less than 800 and not more than 1,500 words, written on one side of the paper in the official language of your organization, and should be submitted with full names and addresses of the author. Copies should be kept. All entries should reach the Q.W.I. office by Jan. 15, 1959. The essays will be judged by an international panel of judges (three best sent by each constituent society) and prizes awarded at the ACWW Conference in Scotland, August, 1959.

More About The ACWW

Lady Nuttall has again consented to serve as the Q.W.I. representative on the ACWW Executive Committee. In a report of the last meeting of that Committee (which meets every quarter in London) attention was drawn to the "wonderful", to quote its own word, sum of £10,142.

11s. 10d for Pennies for Friendship Fund, (\$28,391) raised in the first seven months of last year.

Convention

A reminder that this is just around the corner, June 24-27. The first day will be the Annual Board meeting, as usual, with branch delegates arriving that evening, ready for business on the 25th.

New Staff Member Appointed



Miss Anna Christie is the newest member of the Q.W.I. Staff. Miss Christie graduates this spring from the B.Sc. (H.Ec.) course at Macdonald College, and has maintained a consistently high record in her studies during her four years at the College. She has been appointed Home Economics Director, and will

take up her duties on the first of June. She will also be helping out at this year's "Facts, Fingers, Fun."

The Q.W.I. executive is very pleased that this position, so long vacant, has been filled so acceptably.

The Month With The W.I.

Nearly all counties report a busy annual meeting, with election of officers and convenors and plans for the coming year. Members seem to be looking forward to spring, as they are ordering shrubs and bulbs for themselves and many mention seeds for school children — school fairs ahead. Reports are still coming in of the FWIC meeting in Ottawa discussed and the Q.W.I. Semi-annual Board meeting in Montreal, as well as the more recent County Board meetings.

Please note the many times new members are mentioned. This Q.W.I. project, increased membership, seems to be well under way.

Argenteuil: *Arundel* is planning a bazaar. *Brownsburg* heard a talk on "Gleaning Information", given by Mrs. Crosby. A casserole supper netted \$30. *Frontier* made a tour of the J. C. Wilson Paper Mill. *Jerusalem-Bethany* welcomed three new members. The branch catered for a wedding. *Lachute's* guest speaker was Col. E. Emmett, County Health Unit Inspector, whose topic was "Rabies, its Danger and Prevention". *Lakefield* held a contest, with prizes. *Mille Isles* donated \$10 to the Salvation Army and \$5 to the Community Hall. *Pioneer* sent a carton of clothing and four sweaters to the Unitarian Service, made a quilt for the Red Cross, and gave donations of \$15 to the Service Fund and \$10 to the Foundation Fund. *Upper Lachute-East End* finished two quilts for a sale.

Brome: *Abercorn* received and made up remnants from Bruck's Mills. *Austin* welcomed five new members. This branch also received material from three firms, which has been made up for a sale. Plans were made for an anniversary party. *Knowlton's Landing* is another branch receiving materials from three firms. Their project is to build a kitchen on the Club Room. A donation of \$5 was voted the Red Cross. *Sutton* sent cotton to the Cancer



Mrs. Miner, Cowansville, won the prize with this beautiful hat, made from and trimmed with kitchen utensils. She covered a strainer with coloured paper serviettes to make the shape, then trimmed it with spoons, egg timers and other kitchen gadgets.

Society. Birthday money was collected and a social evening enjoyed. *South Bolton* received a donations of books and planned a card party.

Chat-Huntingdon: *Aubrey-Riverfield* had Mrs. Leggat as guest speaker on the topic, "The Influence of Colour". Fruit, jams, etc. were donated to Snowdon Home and Valentines sent the Children's Hospital. *Hemmingford* reported six new members, and sent \$1 per member to the Service Fund. The Federated News subscription was renewed. *Dundee* had a discussion on "Do Modern Farm Women Work Harder than they did a Generation ago?" *Huntingdon* made plans for entertaining the County Annual Meeting an for a class in Weaving. *Franklin Centre* had a discussion on a kitchen shower and read pen pal letters. New and used clothing has been sent to Korea and a card party held.

Compton: *Bury* welcomed three new members and held a Pancake Supper. This W.I. sponsored the Cancer Society Campaign. *Canterbury* discussed the coming year's program and held an Installation Service. *Cookshire* presented a life membership to the president, Mrs. Ronald Learned, who had missed only one meeting in her seven years of office. A food sale was held to raise funds for local school bursary and contributions were sent to Unitarian Relief. *East Angus* netted \$21.75 by a paper drive and donated \$5 to the School for Retarded Children in Sherbrooke. Cotton was collected for the Cancer Society. "What Citizenship means to Canada", was the title of a reading. *East Clifton* gave a farewell gift to a member who is leaving the community and gifts to the retiring president and secretary-treasurer. The latter has served in that capacity for 23 years. *Scotstown* made 20 pads for the Cancer Society at the meeting.

Gatineau: *Aylmer East* had Mrs. Watson, Q.W.I. Citizenship Convenor, as guest speaker. Donations were made to March of Dimes in memory of Mrs. Scott; to Retarded Children in memory of Mrs. Shouldice, and to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Breckenridge* heard papers read by three of the convenors. *Eardley* made a layette for the Unitarian Service and collected clothing for the same purpose. Mrs. Robinson gave a paper on "Making Bread".

The county president, Mrs. M. Wilson, presents life membership pins to two valued members of the Upper Lachute-East End W.I. These are Mrs. W. Jackson and Mrs. J. A. Pollock.





This is the class at Cleveland when W.I. members attended cooking demonstrations given by Miss McOuat.

Lakeview purchased four basket balls for the St. Raymond School and gave 80 books for supplementary reading at Hull School. Plans were completed for "Fun Night" to raise money for local schools and the School for Retarded Children of Gatineau and Hull Counties. *Lower Eardley* mentions only the refund of \$2, branch assessment for Ceylon Relief. *Kazabazua* entertained husbands and friends. The guest speaker was Dr. J. A. Kearns on "Atomic Research and Its Effects on New Drugs and Medicine". *Rupert* heard papers by Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. Moore on Education. *Wakefield* made plans for the coming year's program. *Wright* has five members with perfect attendance for the past year.

Jacques Cartier: *Ste. Annes* is building up a fund of \$50 to assist deserving students at the two local schools (Protestant and Catholic). Help has been given to both the local and travelling libraries. An English member and her husband have just obtained their Canadian Citizenship.

Megantic: *Inverness* renewed membership in CAC and gave \$5 to the Salvation Army. Three new members were welcomed. Appliqued blocks were distributed with which to make two crib quilts and mitts and an apron handed in for the sale table.

Missisquoi: *Cowansville's* president gave an address, reviewing work of the W.I. Their project: trash cans for the town—two appeals have been made to the Town Council. *Dunham* donated \$10 toward school lunches for needy children at the Cowansville High School and \$25 to a family who lost home by fire. Talks heard were the Tweedsmuir Competition, the First Dominion Day and Contributions of New Canadians to our Country. *Fordyce* purchased Auto Code Books for member drivers, part of their Safety Campaign. Two picnic tables are to be made, also receptacles, to be placed on Route 40. A membership has been taken out in the United Nations Association in Canada. *Stanbridge East* suggested an Open House at the local school, which was a success. A study of UNESCO was followed by a quiz. A box of exchange material has been received from the link in New Zealand, Waitoa W.I.

Montcalm: *Rawdon* reports two new members during the past year and six new ones joining at the Annual Meeting. This branch comes out strongly in support of the course, "Facts, Fingers, Fun".

Papineau: *Lochaber* received \$20.69 from IGA pink slips. Readings were heard on "School Costs" and "How Vital is the W.I. Today".

Pontiac: *Clarendon* paid \$28 to the Service Fund and is applying for a life membership for one of their members. *Fort Coulonge* saw movies shown by Rev. Mr. MacDonald on his trip to the Maritimes. Polio donations were received. *Shawville* heard reports on the World Jamboree in England, given by two Boy Scouts who attended. Hot lunches were provided for a month for two underprivileged children. This branch finished 255 cancer dressings. *Wyman* sent clothing to care and a contest was held.

Quebec: *Valcartier* saw films on Ireland, Scotland and New York, an enjoyable evening.

Richmond: *Dennison's Mills* brought white cotton for the Cancer Society. The sum of \$33.45 was realized from two card parties. *Gore* donated \$3 to the Red Cross and held a banquet at which the losers in the attendance contest treated the winners. *Melbourne Ridge* knit seven sweaters for Unitarian Relief, and gave presents to five members with perfect attendance. *Richmond Hill* answered roll call with a donation to the March of Dimes, which amounted to \$2. Garments were made and sent to the Cecil Memorial Home. A food and used clothes sale brought in \$13.60 and \$10 was given the March of Dimes. *Richmond YWI* made a total of \$24.70 from a variety of money-raising events. *Shipton* realized \$31.55 from their projects for the treasury and donated \$5 to the March of Dimes. Cotton was handed in for the Cancer Society. *Spooner Pond* made \$21.05 from a White Elephant Sale and donated \$5 for County Fair prizes.

Shefford: *Granby Hill* voted a donation to the Red Cross. Two quilts were made and given to two members. *Granby West* held a Bingo Party. *South Roxton* held a quiz on the Handbook and heard a reading from the Federated News on the new National President. A sale of bread netted \$5.45. *Waterloo-Warden* also held a sale of home made bread.

Sherbrooke: *Ascot* had an exhibit of home-made quilts by Mrs. Brown. Donations were \$10 to the local 4-H Calf Club and \$5 to the Blind Campaign. A member described a visit to the Salon of Agriculture at the Show Mart, Montreal, and a quiz was held on "How Well do



A happy group of Granby Hill W.I. members, old(?) and young.

We know our Bodies". *Belvidere* welcomed a new member and presented a gift to the retiring secretary, Mrs. W. R. Bell. *Brompton Road* had a contest on home-made rolls. The sum of \$10 was voted the Grace Christian Home and one member made 135 dressings at the Cancer clinic. Articles were read on "A Homemaker's Joy is a Host of Little Things", and "Control of Fungus Diseases on Corn". *Lennoxville* members made 690 small dressings at the Cancer Clinic. A lecture was given by Dr. Chevalier on Cancer, followed by a film on this subject. The members here hold a "Craft Get-together" weekly in the Club Room. A gift was presented to a member who is leaving town. *Milby* awarded a life membership to Mrs. Roy Suitor, who has acted in all offices and many convenorships during the life of this branch. Two new members were enrolled. A card party was sponsored.

Stanstead: *Ayer's Cliff* answered their roll call with homemade valentines which were later sent to shut-ins in the community. *Beebe* held a Birthday meeting when members paid their age in pennies and prizes were given for games and quizzes. *Minton* held a busy annual meeting and donated \$1 for sunshine work. *North Hatley* heard a report by Mrs. LeBaron on the meeting she had attended in Toronto. Integration of the Indian had been discussed there, a national and provincial project of the W.I. *Stanstead North* heard a report of the County Board meeting, followed by a discussion. *Way's Mills* donated \$15 to the hot lunches in local school. This branch had four members give a resumé of the local W.I. over WIKE Radio Station, Newport.

The Honour Roll



With the sudden passing of Miss Edith M. Edey, on February 15, 1958, Wyman W.I. lost one of the oldest members of the Quebec Women's Institutes, as she had been a member since that branch was organized in March 1913.

Miss Edey was a member of one of the pioneer families, her great grandfather, Moses

Edey, coming to Canada from Vermont as a United Empire Loyalist in 1805. With other members of the family he settled in the Aylmer and Pontiac districts. She was born and had lived all her life on the Edey homestead until her passing at the age of 82 years.

Of her many and varied interests the church was one that claimed her great devotion. In her childhood she played the organ in the Sunday School and later was organist in the Wyman Baptist and Methodist Churches, a talent she continued to use with beauty and faithfulness until the time of her death.

Miss Edey was a charter member of Wyman Women's Institute, a past president of that branch, and had served one year as county vice-president. She had served many years as Publicity Convenor for Wyman, and also for Pontiac County for many years.

She is survived by four sisters. Two brothers predeceased her many years ago. The picture shows her with her sisters, Miss Edey at the extreme left.

(This tribute was written by a life-long friend, Miss A. S. Pritchard).



Mrs. Richard Brown of the Ascot W.I. stands in front of her winning quilt. For the past two years Mrs. Brown's quilts have won in the Star Weekly contests, were displayed at the Canadian National Exhibition, and have journeyed across Canada for display in Eaton stores. The county president, Miss E. Smith, is holding the quilt at the left, and the branch president, Mrs. E. Dawson, is at the right.



Behind Your Cupboard Door

By Jane K. Warkentin

The secret of placing items where they will be "first used" can lead the way to easier housekeeping in the kitchen. Without making any major changes in the arrangement of the kitchen a homemaker can eliminate waste motions and save time to enjoy other family activities.

IN the kitchen, ample storage space can be an aid to efficiency. A new or remodelled kitchen will not be the most convenient one in which to work unless storage space is planned near each major piece of equipment. Compared with the pantry of a generation ago, storage cabinets placed within the kitchen area do save the homemaker time and extra walking. The custom of storing all supplies in a pantry has now been replaced by the idea of functional storage.

In functional storage, items are stored together not because they are alike but because they are used together. The words, "First Use", are the clues to unlock the secrets of storage in your kitchen. To simplify your work, store items at the work center where they will be used first. Some utensils are used first with water such as a double boiler; others are needed directly at the range. The way to cut work time is to store a packaged food such as spaghetti near the range since it is placed directly in boiling water. Other examples are:

Cocoa near the sink

Coffee maker near the sink; coffee near range or electric outlet

Canned vegetables, serving dishes, near range

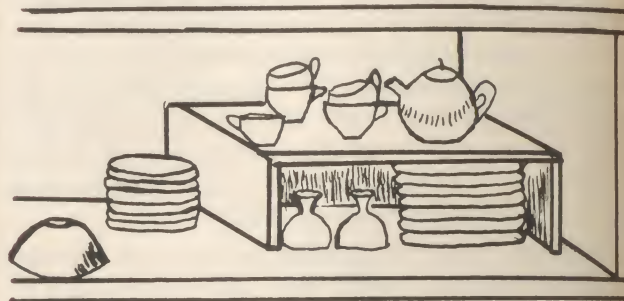
Sugar, flour, salad seasonings, in the mix center.

All you need do with this system is to stop and ask yourself, "Where do I use it first?" The idea of storing things at the place of first use can also be applied to sewing materials and to the cleaning supply cupboard.

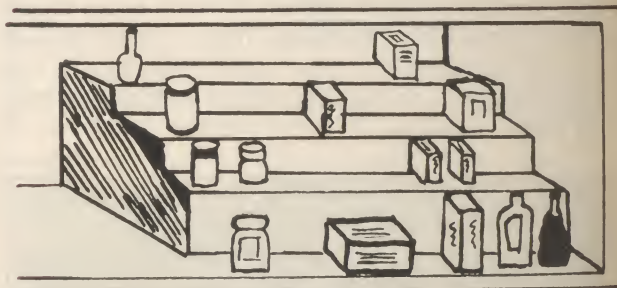
Storing supplies and utensils within an easy and comfortable reach help to get rid of waste work. Few people can reach over six feet without stretching or standing on chairs. Because women do not climb well it is best to store items used everyday on the first or second shelf of the wall cabinet. High, hard-to-get-to shelves should be saved for articles that are seldom needed. A step stool would be handy to reach those high shelves in many kitchens. Every item should be stored so that it is easy to find and to pick up from the shelf. Picking up a stack of saucers in order to remove the plates for supper does not help to speed the work in the kitchen.

Various storage devices can be used to improve the storage space in any cupboard. They can be made from plywood or butter boxes (if you have one), or purchased ready-made.

A wide stepshelf doubles the capacity of your cabinet. Try using them to store cups, small bowls, and sauce dishes. It is not a wise practice to place on hooks because it increases chipping and weakens the handles.



It will be easier to find spices if a narrow step is added to deep shelves. The labels on the sides of the boxes will be easier to read without moving everything and there is less danger of knocking over the cornstarch while hunting for the bottle of vanilla.



Have you thought of a file for platters, pan covers, pie tins, and cake pans? It gives order to the cupboard and there is then no need to stoop to the floor to sort through a drawer of covers.



The inside of your cupboard door is a good place for hanging items like measuring spoons, spatulas, and the kitchen shears. Pieces of felt can be glued under the shears to reduce the noise when opening the door. A metal

clip will hold a recipe card or a rack will hold a recipe book at eye level. On the opposite door it would be handy to have a list of equivalent measures such as:

3 tsp. = 1 tbsp.
16 tbsp. = 1 cup.

The list could be posted, or if you are handy with a paint brush it could be painted on the door.



Do not put everything behind closed doors. A pegboard with hooks can save you much time and searching for oft-used items such as forks, egg turner, and potato masher. At the sink hang a vegetable brush, collander, and a can opener. If supplies and utensils are easy to use and to see, it may encourage children to help with the work in the home.

Other ways in which your storage can work for you are: (1) Heavy dinner plates and bowls should be stored near counter level to make them easier to handle. (2) Adjustable shelves should be used to make use of valuable space such as that found in the newer models of refrigerators. (3) Surplus canned and packaged foods should not be placed in the main work area. (4) If food is frozen

in the home, one drawer or cupboard should be saved for freezer supplies. (5) With small children in the family, some place to store toys in the kitchen should be planned. One word about open shelves which are being suggested in many articles on kitchen planning. Open shelves are practical because things are easy to see and are convenient for picking things up. They can add bright color to the kitchen. If you do not like the appearance of bowls, spoons, and spices on open shelves, it would be best to place them behind the cupboard door.

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